AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in this application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-124 (Cancelled)

2.1.26

(New) A three-dimensional memory device with ECC circuitry comprising:

a support element;

error checking and correcting (ECC) circuitry carried by the support element; and

plurality of memory cells arranged in a plurality of layers stacked vertically above one another, wherein the memory cell layers are deposited, patterned, and etched without using any bonding

material between the memory cell layers.

126. (New) The invention of Claim 125 further comprising a housing protecting the error checking and correcting (ECC) circuitry and the memory array.

126. (New) The invention of Claim 125, wherein the memory cells comprise write-once memory cells.

(New) The invention of Claim 125, wherein the memory cells are selected from the group consisting of semiconductor-transistor-technology-based memory cells, magnetic-based memory cells, and organic-electronics-based memory cells.

129. (New) A method for storing data and error checking and correcting (ECC) bits in a three-dimensional memory device with ECC circuitry, the method comprising:

(a) providing a three-dimensional memory device with ECC circuitry to a data storage system, the memory device comprising:

a support element;

error checking and correcting (ECC) circuitry carried by the support element; and

a memory array carried by the support element, wherein the memory array comprises a plurality of memory cells arranged in a plurality of layers stacked vertically above one another, wherein the memory cell layers are deposited, patterned, and etched without using any bonding material between the memory cell layers;

- (b) with the memory device, receiving at least one data bit to be stored in the memory array;
- (c) with the ECC circuitry, generating at least one ECC bit based on the at least one data bit; and
 - (d) storing the at least one data bit and the at least one ECC bit in the memory array.

130: (New) The invention of Claim 129 further comprising:

- (e) retrieving the at least one data bit and the at least one ECC bit in the memory array; and
- (f) with the ECC circuitry, identifying an error in the retrieved at least one data bit and at least one ECC bit.
- 130 131. (New) The invention of Claim 129, wherein the memory device further comprises a housing protecting the error checking and correcting (ECC) circuitry and the memory array.

(New) The invention of Claim 129, wherein the memory cells comprise write-once memory cells.

132. (New) The invention of Claim 129, wherein the memory cells are selected from the group consisting of semiconductor-transistor-technology-based memory cells, magnetic-based memory cells, and organic-electronics-based memory cells.

134. (New) A system for storing an error checking and correcting (ECC) bit in a three-dimensional memory array, the system comprising:

a data storage system; and

a memory device adapted to be releasably coupled to the data storage system, the memory device comprising a memory array carried by the support element, wherein the memory array comprises a plurality of memory cells arranged in a plurality of layers stacked vertically above

one another, wherein the memory cell layers are deposited, patterned, and etched without using any bonding material between the memory cell layers;

wherein the data storage system comprises error checking and correcting (ECC) functionality.

138. (New) The invention of Claim 134, wherein the ECC functionality is implemented in software in the data storage system.

136. (New) The invention of Claim 134, wherein the ECC functionality is implemented in a file system in the data storage system.

137. (New) The invention of Claim 134, wherein the ECC functionality is implemented in hardware in the data storage system.

138. (New) The invention of Claim 134, wherein the memory device further comprises a housing protecting the memory array.

135. (New) The invention of Claim 134, wherein the memory cells comprise write-once memory cells.

149. (New) The invention of Claim 134, wherein the memory cells are selected from the group consisting of semiconductor-transistor-technology-based memory cells, magnetic-based memory cells, and organic-electronics-based memory cells.